

REGULAR MEETING OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD APRIL 9, 2014

At the regular Council meeting of the Farmville Town Council held on Wednesday, April 9, 2014, at 7:00 pm in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall located at 116 North Main Street, Farmville, VA, there present were Mayor S.C. Newman, Jr., presiding and Council members D.E. Whitus, S.B. Thompson, T.M. Pairet, J.J. Davis and A.D. Reid. Council members D.L. Hunter and E.I. Gordon were absent.

Staff present was Town Manager, Gerald Spates; Town Attorney, Donald Blessing; Town Treasurer, Carol Anne Seal; Chief of Police, Douglas Mooney; Director of Public Works, Robin Atkins; Town Planner, Cindy Morris and Town Clerk, Lisa Hricko.

Mayor Newman called the meeting to order. Reverend Price gave the invocation; followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Vice Mayor Reid.

The Town Manager asked that the public comment period be set aside in order for the Farmville Downtown Partnership to address Town Council.

FARMVILLE DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP

Mr. Jimmy Johnson, President of the Farmville Downtown Partnership, LLC and Farmville business owner of the Sleeping Bee addressed Council. Mr. Johnson updated Council on the organization's ongoing programs. He presented members with the new "Farmville Downtown" informational brochure which provides guests with a comprehensive map and guide of the area.

Mr. Johnson acknowledged that Mayor Newman would not be seeking re-election and would be stepping down from office in June. He thanked Mayor Newman for his many years of service as a Council member and Mayor of Farmville. He praised him for his love, devotion and commitment to the Town of Farmville.

Mr. Johnson then introduced Ms. Pam Butler, a member of the Board of Directors of the Farmville Downtown Partnership, LLC and Farmville business owner of the Mainly Clay, along with Web Designer, Ms. Mary Joe Stockton. Ms. Butler and Ms. Stockton presented members with an overview of Farmville Downtown Partnership's new website.

Council returned to the regular order of business.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mr. Steve Smalley addressed Council regarding the Airport Hangar Committee. Mr. Smalley described himself as an aircraft owner and active in the aviation field since 1969. He asked Council to consider appointing a Chair person to the Airport Hangar Committee. He suggested the person be a professional who is knowledgeable of airports and the dynamics of aviation, as well as well versed in FAA rules and regulations. He asked that Council consider appointing Mr. Ron White as Chair.

CLERK'S NOTE: The Airport Hangar Committee was formed at the March Council meeting. At the recommendation of Mayor Newman, Council appointed Committee members: Council members Mr. Hunter, Mr. Pairet and Mr. Davis and pilots Mr. Morgan Dunnavant and Dr. Jim Wills. The Mayor and the Town Manager also serve as members on all Committees established by Council. The Airport Hangar Committee will make recommendations to Council on the most feasible way for the Town to provide rental hangar space for pilots interested in storing aircraft at the Farmville Municipal Airport. Prior to the hangar being taken down, municipal hangar provided rental space for six aircraft.

Ms. Jennifer Cox, Longwood University's Associate Director of Off-Campus Living provided an update on various Longwood issues. Spring Weekend is scheduled for this upcoming weekend. Longwood staff has taken proactive steps in informing students of their responsibilities and Longwood's expectations. Longwood's new environmental building located at Lancer Park should be operational by August of this year. First Year Experience, Rock the Block is scheduled for Friday, September 19th, followed by Family Weekend, September 20th and the 21st.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 12, 2014 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Whitus and with all Council members voting "aye", the minutes of the March 12, 2014 regular Council meeting were approved, as presented.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 25, 2014 RECONVENED COUNCIL MEETING

On motion by Mr. Reid, seconded by Mr. Davis and with all Council members voting "aye", the minutes of the March 25, 2014 reconvened Council meeting were approved, as presented.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 2, 2014 REGULAR WORK SESSION MEETING

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Reid and with all Council members voting “aye”, the minutes of the April 2, 2014 regular work session meeting were approved, as presented.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER’S REPORT

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mrs. Thompson and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Thompson, Pairet, Davis and Reid voting “aye”, the Treasurer’s Report were approved, as presented.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

On motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Whitus and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Thompson, Pairet, Davis and Reid voting “aye”, payment of the bills were+ approved, as submitted.

STAFF REPORTS – INFORMATION ONLY

Members received copies of the following monthly staff reports:

- Building Official’s Report;
- Property Inspector’s Report;
- Recreation Department’s Report;
- Parking Meter Tally;
- Sanitation and Recycling Report;
- Police Department Incident Base Reporting;
- Municipal Golf Course Report

Staff reports were reviewed at work session.

TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT

The Town Manager provided a verbal report on various town projects. Mr. Spates thanked Longwood University students that volunteered their time for “The Big Event” held on March 29th. The Big Event is the largest campus-wide community service project at Longwood. Nearly 500 students volunteered. He updated members on the Farmville Community Marketplace and its grand reopening held last weekend. He said he is continuing to work with Longwood University in finalizing the agreement on the streets and he has not heard from Luck Stone regarding the Mottley Lake issue. Mr. Spates said he will be following up on the Mottley

Lake issue with Mr. Tom Rice, the environmental consultant hired by the Town to evaluate the affect the proposed Luck Stone rock quarry may have on Mottley Lake, Farmville's emergency water supply. A copy of the report prepared by Mr. Rice titled "Impact to Mottley Lake from Adjacent Aggregate Mining", dated December 16, 2013 was forwarded to Luck Stone. Mr. Spates announced that he is waiting on one more price on removing the bump-outs on Main Street. He and Town Attorney, Don Blessing are moving forward in the matter regarding the heat applied pavers and will keep Council posted on the progress. He updated members on the expected schedule of paving various town streets. Mr. Spates informed Council that National Public Safety Telecommunications Week (911 Dispatcher Appreciation) is April 13 – 19th. He spoke of the tremendous job Farmville's Dispatchers do and what an asset they are to this community. Spring Clean-up is April 14th, all items placed by the curb will be picked up.

REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR LETTERS OF INTEREST TO SERVE ON THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Davis and with all Council members voting "aye", the recommendation by the Town Manager to advertise for letters of interest for persons interested in serving on the Farmville Board of Zoning Appeals was approved.

BACKGROUND: Mr. Richard Lash served as a member on the Farmville Board of Zoning Appeals and passed away in February of this year. Mr. Spates said Council will need to recommend a person for appointment by the Circuit Court of Prince Edward County to fill the remaining term of Mr. Lash.

REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED 2014-2015 TOWN BUDGET

On motion by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Pairet and with all Council members voting "aye", the recommendation to continue the matter of authorizing advertisement for a public hearing on the proposed 2014-2015 Town Budget was approved.

BACKGROUND: Members spoke in support of continuing the request to authorize advertisement of a public hearing on the proposed 2014-2015 Town Budget. Mr. Davis said with the absence of two Council members, he suggested this matter be continued until the May 7th work session.

REQUEST ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION URGING THE VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA TO AGREE ON A FY 2015-2015 BUDGET

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Reid and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Thompson, Pairet, Davis and Reid voting “aye”, the following resolution was adopted:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
OF FARMVILLE, VIRGINIA**

WHEREAS, the Virginia General Assembly did not agree on the approval of a budget by the adjournment date of March 8, 2014; and

WHEREAS, funds from the state received by the Town of Farmville comprise portion of revenues necessary for the Town of Farmville to deliver many of the public services mandated by the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the delivery of mandated public services by the Town of Farmville depends upon a stable and healthy partnership between state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, Virginia’s local governments are subject strict, statutory deadlines for approving certain components of their respective budgets; and

WHEREAS, local governments under Sections 15.2-2500 and 15.2-2503 of the *Code of Virginia* are required to approve their respective budget and tax rates by July 1 of each year; and

WHEREAS, failure to approve a budget in a timely manner would disrupt the ability of Virginia’s businesses and public agencies to operate effectively;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of Farmville, Virginia that the Virginia General Assembly and the Governor of Virginia are urged to reconcile their differences and agree on a FY 2015-2016 budget;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council of Farmville, Virginia shall transmit copies of this resolution to the Honorable Terry R. McAuliffe, Governor of Virginia, and to its members of the Virginia General Assembly.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Town Council of Farmville, Virginia at a regular meeting in Farmville, Virginia, at which a quorum was present and that same was passed by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed, this 9th day of April, 2014.

BACKGROUND: Members spoke in support of adopting a resolution urging General Assembly and Governor McAuliffe to work together to adopt a balanced budget.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE VIRGINIA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE POLICY COMMITTEES

The Virginia Municipal League is accepting nominations for its 2014 policy committees. The committees are as follows: Community and Economic Development, Environmental

Quality, Finance, General Laws, Human Development and Education, Transportation. Mrs. Thompson has expressed an interest in again serving on the Community and Economic Development Committee and Mr. Reid, Human Development and Education. Mr. Whitus has agreed to serve on the Finance Committee and Mr. Hunter's name will be submitted for the General Laws Committee, he served as member on that Committee last year.

TOWN MANAGER AND/OR STAFF PROVIDED A VERBAL REPORT ON THE FOLLOWING MATTERS:

Members received copies of the monthly employee overtime report, ICA Housing report and the Farmville Downtown report. Mr. Spates shared with Council the invitation to Mr. Lacy Ward, Jr.'s farewell event scheduled for Monday, April 28th from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm at the Moton Museum. Mr. Ward has accepted the position of Executive Director of the International Civil Rights Center and Museum in Greensboro, NC.

Mr. Spates provided members with a copy of the "Retail Sales & Dollar Volume – Last Five Years Report". He offered a comparison between the 2012 to 2013 figures

Council discussed touring the New Horizon Community Action Partnership building located at 103 South Main Street. The New Horizon CAP plans to operate a homeless shelter serving six counties. The shelter will house individuals from 6:00 pm until 9:00 am the next day. Members agreed that further information is needed prior to their visiting the location.

Council has been invited to visit Green Front Furniture and tour the area of the new "River Walk". Members discussed the possibility of visiting the area after the Wednesday, May 7th work session.

Mr. Robin Atkins, Director of Public Works provided an update on the water line project. He reminded Council of Spring Clean-Up scheduled for Monday, April 14th, 2014 and of Hampden-Sydney's "The Big Event" scheduled on Saturday, April 12, 2014. Mr. Atkins thanked Mayor Newman and Town Council for their service and commitment to Farmville.

FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS INQUIRED OR COMMENTED ON THE FOLLOWING:

Mr. Davis expressed his appreciation and gratitude to the Farmville Volunteer Fire Department for their quick response to a fire at his business that occurred on Saturday, April 5th. He spoke of the success of Longwood University "The Big Event" and also thanked the students that volunteered their time to serve the Farmville community.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

S.C. Newman, Jr., Mayor

Lisa M. Hricko, Clerk